

Dexter City Update

Summer 2022 Volume 8, Issue 2

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State of the City

By Shawn W. Keough, Mayor

Executive Summary

The State of the City of Dexter is strong, safe and again very vibrant in 2022. While our nation continues to face challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic and associated variants, I am proud to say that our town, schools and community are open and operating at levels closer to those we remember prior to the pandemic.



Since my last State of the City in March 2021, the opportunity to get a vaccination and booster shots to help prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus has become very real and very accessible. The success of these vaccinations has allowed each of us a chance to re-engage with our families, our friends, our co-workers and our teachers. We have evolved as a society over the past couple of years, and some of those new habits such as working from home, virtual meetings and increased hand washing are here to stay in 2022. Many of our residents learned that they like to work from home. With the recent inflation that has hit our nation and affected gas prices, food prices and the cost of just about everything, the opportunity to work from home hopefully means you aren't putting as much gas in your car and are saving a little money. Our businesses had another tough year in 2021, but most have survived and appear to be doing well today. I think we are all very thankful that they have been able to continue to offer opportunities for dining, shopping and strolling.

Our town continues to thrive as a home for 4,500 people (based on 2020 census numbers). The Dexter Community Schools continue to offer educational excellence and a great opportunity for learning for all kids in the greater Dexter community. Our town is a popular destination, offering recreational trails and parks as safe visiting places for residents and visitors to use. Your City Council and staff are working hard every day to provide safe, secure public infrastructure and responsive public services.

Over the past year, City Council has worked really well together and I am proud that we were able to accomplish many good things. We formalized the hiring of our new City Manager (Justin Breyer), filled several open staff positions, prepared for the retirement of our Superintendent of Public Services and purchased a semi-historic building for our new City offices. All are very exciting steps forward!

Our City Council and dedicated staff have continued to build on our belief that a walkable community with access to recreation and our natural surroundings contributes to a desirable community. We have also continued to take pride in maintaining our streets, creating safer corridors for both motorized and non-motorized transportation, and keeping our town clean. Our City's taxable value continues to increase overall, yet our local tax (millage) rate remains the lowest of any City in Washtenaw County. All in all, I believe we are all very lucky to call the City of Dexter our home.

State of the City

Introduction

November 20, 2021 marked the 7th anniversary of the City of Dexter filing our City Charter. In accordance with Section 3.05 of the City Charter, it is my extreme honor and privilege to present this State of the City message. It starts with an overview of your government's tax structure and how those tax dollars are used to provide services. Our City Council and staff have been entrusted with the responsibility of looking out for the long-term best interests of the City of Dexter. My goal in this newsletter is to describe how your tax dollars are being used to create a high quality of life and a safe place for all our residents, businesses and visitors. I would also like to bring general awareness regarding some of the challenges we may face in the years ahead, as well as share some personal insights into how we are doing overall as a City.

A Stable and Consistent Fiscal Approach

While there have been many new ideas discussed as part of our recent goal setting sessions, City Council continues to use a stable and consistent approach to open, fiscally-responsible government. The 2021-2022 fiscal year ended on June 30, 2022, and we had another year where our spending was less than our revenue. We increased our savings by \$336,000 in the City's General Fund. We paid \$945,000 toward past debt across all of our funds and used our excellent bond rating to sell \$2.5M in bonds for the purchase of our new City offices. While this decision technically increased our overall long-term debt this past year, we made this decision with the knowledge that we have the financial ability to make the annual debt payments for our new City offices within our current tax structure. Our top priorities for your tax dollars continue to be: 1) keeping our town safe, 2) continuously maintaining and upgrading our public infrastructure, 3) making sure our downtown, parks and streets are clean, safe and open to our residents and visitors and 4) maintaining fiscal responsibility.



Succession Planning and Staff Changes

Over the past year, we have focused on succession planning and finding the right replacements for several of our key City staff leadership positions. As I mentioned above, we hired Justin Breyer as our new City Manager. Justin was our previous Assistant to the Manager and stood out as an excellent choice during our public search process. Justin is only the third City/Village Manager in the past 22 years here in Dexter, which I believe attests to how well our staff prepares and cross-trains each other for the future. In December 2021, Mr. Breyer successfully hired a new Assistant to the Manager, Josh Tanghe. We also hired a new Associate Planner, Grace Whitney, who started in May 2022; and a new Administrative Assistant, Jenna Kuick, who started in March 2022. Josh, Grace, and Jenna are all off to great starts and look like great additions to our City office team.

Our focus on succession planning is necessary due to two retirements and one future retirement of another key department head. Our Superintendent of Public Services, Dan Schlaff, retired on July 1, 2022 after 37 years with the Village/City Department of Public Works and Water/Sewer Departments. Mr. Schlaff is leaving a legacy of hard work, a focus on the importance of maintenance across the organization, and the importance of communicating with the public on projects. Over his past 10 years as Superintendent, Dan has worked closely with his staff and trained his successor to the position.

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Mr. Tim Stewart took over as our new Superintendent effective July 1, 2022. Congrats to Tim on this new opportunity and thank you for your willingness to step into a leadership position. A special congratulations to Dan on his retirement as we thank him and wish him all the best!

In our main office, our long time Utility Billing Clerk, Erin Aiken, retired at the end of December 2021. Erin worked for the city for 24 years, and we would like to thank her for her excellent service to our community. The former Administrative Assistant, Brenda Tuscano, was promoted into the Utility Billing Clerk role.

Our Finance Director, Treasurer and City Assessor Marie Sherry is planning to retire in 2025. While it will be extremely difficult and unlikely that we will be able to replace Ms. Sherry's expertise in all three areas with one new hire, we have initiated the process and are discussing the succession planning for these roles. We will be focusing on this future transition as part of our ongoing planning.



Overall, our staff size has remained essentially the same. We currently have 18 full-time, 2 part-time, and 6 seasonal employees, as well as an intern, and the new budget approved the addition of one new position in our Department of Public Services. I would like to thank and recognize each member of our City staff for their efforts over the past year:

Office Staff:

Justin Breyer, City Manager
 Josh Tanghe, Assistant to the Manager
 Marie Sherry, Finance Director/Treasurer/Assessor
 Michelle Aniol, Community Development Manager
 Grace Whitney, Associate Planner
 Brenda Tuscano, Utility Billing Clerk (recently promoted from Administrative Assistant)
 Jenna Kuick, Administrative Assistant
 Ryan Bellas, Office Intern

Public Utilities and Department of Public Works Staff:

Daniel Schlaff, Public Services Superintendent (retired July 1, 2022)
 Tim Stewart, Public Service Superintendent (started July 1, 2022)
 Eric Hartman, Lead Operator - Utility
 Andrea Dorney, Chief Lab Technician
 Brad Dexter, Public Utility Operator
 Robert Mester, Public Utility Operator
 Cortney Quist, Public Utility Operator
 Todd Viebahn, Public Utility Operator
 Kurt Augustine, Streets Foreman
 Harold Gross, DPW Worker
 Shawn Chamberlain, DPW Worker
 Jacob Donner, DPW Worker

They have all had a great year and continue to perform at a high level each and every day.

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Our Tax Structure - The Backbone of Public Services

Most residents are aware that we operate on a fiscal year that begins on July 1st and ends on June 30th of the following year. We are just starting our 1st quarter of the City of Dexter's 2022–2023 fiscal year. Each year from January through March, City Council typically holds two or three public goal setting sessions to review and discuss priorities and goals for the upcoming fiscal year.

The goal setting sessions serve as an introduction into our budget development process. Our City Manager and Finance Director lead the process to prepare a draft budget that shows two years of projected revenue and expenditures and also includes a five-year financial projection. These tools allow us to review the impacts of short-term projects and see the effect of longer-term initiatives. We use the budgeting process to review and reinforce our disciplined approach to our long-term fiscal responsibilities. Our knowledgeable staff and Council worked together in April and May to refine the draft budget and propose a tax millage rate for the current fiscal year. Public feedback is encouraged at all stages of the process. I am pleased to report that our tax millage rate remained the same again this year and City Council adopted our budget at the June 27, 2022 City Council meeting.

The budget document is presented in a line-item by line-item format to describe our revenues and our expenditures. The budget document outlines the costs of services, and the cost of our staff that oversee the implementation of the services. The budget is a working tool that serves as a guiding document for staff and Council based on the priorities established by City Council, with input from residents. Our budget document is available on the City's website (https://dextermi.gov/government/departments_and_services/budgets_and_audits.php) and I would like to encourage every resident to review it.

The tax structure for the upcoming 2022-2023 fiscal year is very similar to the previous tax years. Residents and property owners in the City of Dexter will pay a total of 15.3062 mills for City taxes. This overall City millage is the sum of the City General Operating Fund (10.8987 mills) and City Street Fund (4.4075 mills).

A summary of the City's current tax structure for the current fiscal year 2022-2023 in comparison with the structure established in the City Charter and previous fiscal years is presented in the table below:

	City of Dexter – Tax Structure				
Purpose	Original Maximum Rate established by the City Charter (1)	2022 Allowable Headlee Rate	2020 – 2021 Tax Structure	2021 – 2022 Tax Structure	2022 – 2023 Tax Structure (Current)
General Operating	12.5 mills	11.9211 mills	10.8987 mills	10.8987 mills	10.8987 mills
Streets	5.0 mills	4.7683 mills	4.4075 mills	4.4075 mills	4.4075 mills
Total	17.5 mills	16.6894 mills	15.3062 mills	15.3062 mills	15.3062 mills

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The City of Dexter is proud to have the lowest total millage of any City in Washtenaw County. In total, City of Dexter residents pay 47.3775 mills (homestead). Our homestead millage rate is lower than the Cities of Ann Arbor, Chelsea, Milan, Saline and Ypsilanti. Our City of Dexter millage rate of 15.3062 mills is also the lowest in Washtenaw County (by 0.21478 mills) when compared to those other 5 Cities. Generally, the millage rate x Taxable Value / 1000 = the property taxes residents pay.

City Name	City Tax Rate	Total (Homestead)	Total (Non-Homestead)
Ann Arbor	17.5077	50.7948	65.9681
Chelsea	15.52098	47.9936	65.98336
Dexter	15.3062	47.3775	65.3775
Milan	17.2381	50.9708	68.9402
Saline	17.0493	49.1310	67.1310
Ypsilanti	33.0257	67.5622	85.5622

Source: 2021 Washtenaw County Apportionment Report

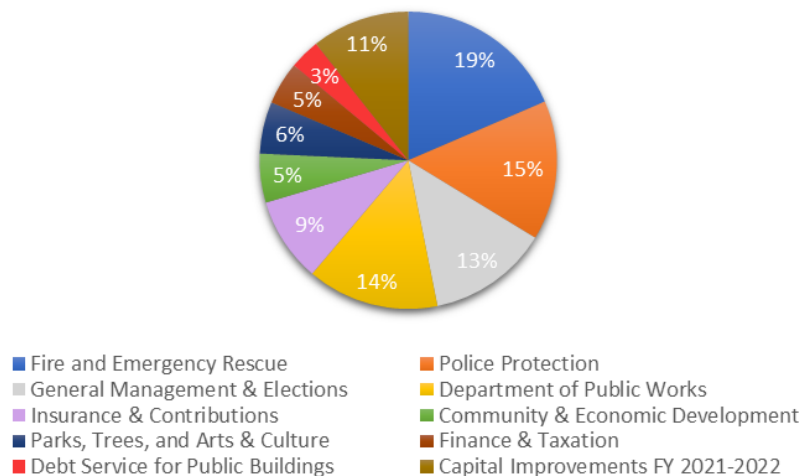
A summary of how your tax dollars and the revenue from our bi-monthly utility billing are used is presented below:

General Fund

The City's General Operating millage (10.8987 mills) supports the City's General Fund. The City's General Fund is the portion of the City Budget that is responsible for many of the public services that are provided to our residents. The revenue collected by the General Operating millage pays for:

- Fire and Emergency Rescue (18.54%);
- Police Protection (15.19%);
- General Management and Elections (13.12%);
- Department of Public Works (14.34%);
- Insurance and Contributions (9.21%);
- Community and Economic Development (5.33%);
- Parks, Trees, and Arts and Culture (5.64%);
- Finance and Taxation (4.65%);
- Debt Service for Public Works Building (3.32%);
- Capital Improvements (\$420,000 in FY 21-22)

General Operating Millage Disbursement by Category



We are in a healthy financial position to continue funding the same essential services that our citizens expect and want.

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Street Millage

The City's Street millage (4.4075 mills) helps cover the cost of taking care of our major and local streets. The City receives additional funding, commonly referred to as Act 51 Funding, from the State of Michigan for each mile of street in our network. The City receives more funding per mile for major streets than local streets. Baker, Broad, Central, Dan Hoey, Dexter-Ann Arbor, Fourth, Hudson, Main, Second and a small portion of Third between Broad and Central meet the State's criteria for major streets, and have been designated as such in the City of Dexter. The remaining streets in Dexter are considered local streets according to the State's designation. The Act 51 funding from the State is not enough to take care of our streets.

The combination of State funding and the City of Dexter Street millage covers the cost of: sweeping streets; plowing snow; maintaining our streets, alleys, sidewalks, traffic signals, pedestrian crossing signals (Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons); street signage; storm water drainage systems; and staffing, equipment and materials (i.e. salt, asphalt for patching, etc.) required to provide these important services. Our Street millage also helps keep our town walkable and accessible to all users, and we use these funds to help maintain our sidewalks. I think we are very lucky because we do not have any State Highways or major County roads that go directly through the City. Our roads are under our jurisdiction and we are able to make local decisions regarding how and when to maintain them.



In 2021, we completed road improvements on Bristol, Kingsley, Wellington, and Lexington Cir. in the Dexter Crossing Subdivision. In June 2022, we installed new sidewalk along Second Street as part of a water system improvement project in that area. The new water main project on Second Street replaced decades old 6-inch cast iron water main with new 8-inch ductile iron water main. The reconstruction of Third Street from Central to Broad Street, which is a dedicated truck route for north-south traffic, began on July 5, 2022. That project will be partially funded with approximately \$370,000 in federal funding that the City was able to request and obtain.

I would like to thank all the residents who have been patient during these much-needed construction projects and for residents that have brought attention to local roads, alleys and sidewalk conditions that are in need of upkeep. We are all responsible for looking out for the condition of our roads, sidewalks and alleys.

Our road improvement plan utilizes a combination of resurfacing, reconstruction and maintenance techniques. These techniques, such as crack sealing, microsurfacing and cape sealing, when applied appropriately and timely, prolong the life cycle of our streets, and extend the value of the original street investment. The City will continue its crack sealing program again in 2022-2023.

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Parks/Trails Updates

Parks and trails continue to be a high priority for the City. In September of 2020, the City completed another fantastic section of trail. That new trail segment extends Mill Creek Park to the south and follows Mill Creek until the trail turns due east to connect to Baker Road just north of the Creekside Middle School athletic property.

We recently approved the addition of some new wayfinding signage along this section of trail and will be initiating construction on a small connector section from that trail over to Grand Street (just west of the Grandview residential development). A recent request was made to add some benches along the trail so users can rest if needed as they walk this segment or so that they can relax near Mill Creek. We always appreciate hearing feedback and new ideas from residents. Please feel free to share them with us.

We continue to monitor the use of our trails, and the number of users is incredible. Pedestrian counters were installed in two places along our trail system – one on the B2B trail to Hudson Mills Metropark and the other on the B2B trail to Dexter-Huron Metropark.



In 2021, the trail from Central Street to Dexter-Huron had a count of 131,577 pedestrian and cyclist trips while the trail from downtown Dexter to Hudson Mills counted 289,236 pedestrian and cyclist trips. Counts taken in 2022 showed an average of 1,068 users per day.

Our next trail project will likely involve some sort of connection with the trail that is making its way from Chelsea to Dexter. While the timing and funding for this next project is still in the planning stages, City Council is looking at options for how to accomplish this.

Solid Waste

Our solid waste collection fee will have another small increase this year. In FY 2021–2022, the monthly collection fee was \$25 per month. In FY 2022–2023, the monthly collection fee will increase to \$26.50 to keep up with our Waste Management contract and inflation. This fee is collected as part of your bi-monthly utility bill. Our refuse and recycling contractor, Waste Management, continues to offer residents one large bulk item pick-up on the first Monday of each month in addition to their normal curbside collection. Spring and fall Clean-Up Days allow for expanded bulk collection on the 3rd Mondays of May and October, respectively. The monthly solid waste collection fee also covers the cost of curbside yard waste collection, fall leaf pick up, brush collection (typically Wednesdays), and Christmas tree pickup.

Water and Sewer Funds

The City's water and sewer funds are often referred to as Enterprise Funds. These funds are not covered by the tax structures described above. Instead, the funding for our water and sewer funds comes directly through water and sewer rates paid by City users. The City's water and sewer rates are established each year in June by a vote of City Council following a public hearing. Both funds are managed so that they are self-sustaining, which means that the rates our residents pay each year cover the costs of operating and maintaining our public water system and public sewer system. Each fund maintains a reserve balance in case of emergencies. Our water and sewer systems are essential components of the City's infrastructure and are a vital part of providing a safe and healthy community. The City has 7 full-time staff assigned to operate, maintain and manage our water and sewer systems.

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Our water system remains safe and in good operating condition. Our water system consists of two well fields (with 5 total wells), a filtration plant, a distribution system, and a water tower. The two well fields are separate and pull water from underground aquifers, which provide redundancy during periods of high use. Our staff operates the two fields in such a way that we allow each aquifer the proper time to recharge. In 2019, we sand blasted and painted the inside of our water tower. We are currently planning a project in FY 2022-23 to paint the outside of the tower. These types of maintenance activities prolong the condition of our water system assets. They often create a small amount of short-term inconvenience (i.e. water restrictions during the maintenance), however, they are essential in order to provide safe drinking water and fire protection for all of our residents and businesses.

Please note that the City will continue to operate during the summer months on mandatory outdoor odd-even watering restrictions. Not only is it environmentally prudent to conserve our water supply, we do not have the capacity to continually stress our aquifers during the high demand periods in the summer months. The watering restrictions allow for the safe recharge of our two aquifers and show an appreciation for this valuable resource. Please help us conserve our water.

Our sewer system is also in good condition, although many of the sewers are older in age. Our wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) is over 40 years old and we have continued to make improvements to the plant. In 2015, we completed improvements to our sludge digester. These improvements have been successful in lowering our energy costs through sustainable design and reuse of the energy that the plant creates. We re-use the methane gas from the digesting process to help power the WWTP. In 2016, we completed improvements to the aeration process by completing electrical system upgrades and replacing one of our blowers with a newer, more energy efficient model. In 2018 and 2019, we completed over \$5 million in improvements to the headworks and tertiary treatment systems of the WWTP. The term "headworks" refers to the initial mechanical components at the WWTP where stones, grit, sticks, sand and other inorganics are removed from the wastewater to reduce wear on the downstream treatment components of the WWTP. Our wastewater treatment plant operates well, and we are consistently meeting our wastewater discharge limits in accordance with our State of Michigan permit, however we must continue to invest in the system to keep it operating properly.

The State of Michigan continues to set a low limit on the amount of phosphorus that can be discharged from the plant into the Huron River. While the tertiary treatment project is helping us to continue to meet these low limits in a cost-effective manner, the State of Michigan continues to push for even more restrictive requirements. Our advanced technologies will work adequately for the near future, however additional improvements may be required pending the outcome of regional discussions with the State Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy. All of these investments are part of our commitment to protect Mill Creek and the Huron River, all part of the wonderful ecosystem that we live near. While we don't have any major renovation projects planned for the WWTP this year, our focus on maintenance activities will continue. Residents should expect that our sewer rates will continue to increase each year to help cover the necessary cost of operating the sewer system, paying down long-term debt and maintaining our WWTP.

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Communication and Transparency

Communication and transparency continue to be a very important part of our local government. We strive to excel in both areas every day. Our website is full of information about upcoming events and meetings. Our staff utilizes the website (www.dextermi.gov), our City Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/City-of-Dexter-Michigan-261417684307/>) and our Email Update system to regularly share information. All of our City Council, Planning Commission and other board packets are available online in advance of the public meetings. We continue to work hard to make sure our residents have access to the information that is being used to make decisions. From April 2020 through August 2021, the City met virtually using Zoom as the platform for our public meetings. We began meeting in-person again at our new City office location (3515 Broad Street) in September 2021. Because of the success and easy access to our meetings that the virtual meetings provided, the City continues provide virtual access and participation for residents via Zoom. All of our City Council and Planning Commission meetings are recorded and available on the website for additional public access.

If you are not signed up to receive emails via our email update system, please send your name and email address to our City Manager, Justin Breyer at jbreyer@dextermi.gov and he will get you signed up, or visit <https://dexter.broadcastgenius.com/f/1012>.

As part of our effort to communicate, we send letters to residents about upcoming infrastructure projects, sidewalk projects and tree trimming. We use newsletters frequently to communicate and share information with each home and business in the City. We also have a residential handbook available that is a comprehensive resource for information on City services. In 2021, we held over a dozen workshops on topics such as goal setting and our fire station. As your Mayor, I will personally continue to prepare a written report of my activities and conversations for each Council packet. City Council also has the opportunity to submit written reports for the packet. These are all examples of our commitment to share information.

In late March 2022, City Council offered a survey to residents, businesses and visitors. The survey asked 45 questions to collect feedback on how we are doing, on the services we are providing and collected general information that will be used as input for our future decision-making.

We are always willing to receive feedback and encourage you to share your ideas and opinions. Please feel free to provide feedback by reaching out to our staff or any City Council member.

Student Participation

In early 2019, City Council made the decision to add non-voting student representatives to our City Council, Planning Commission, Parks Commission, and Arts, Culture & Heritage Committee. I would like to recognize and thank the following students for their participation from July 2021 through June 2022:

City Council - Alex Gilbert & Eren Buyukbozkirli

Planning Commission - Isabella Malek & Stuart Bovich

Parks & Recreation Commission - Caitlyn Donnelly, Will O'Haver, & Kyle Butrum

Arts, Culture & Heritage Committee - Connor Koch & Morgan Marsh

I would also like to welcome these students to our team for the period of July 2022 through June 2023:

City Council - Adam DeGregorio & Bonnie Keating

Planning Commission - Brock McIntyre, Charlotte Bruderly & Julian Malek

Parks & Recreation Commission - Annalena Eisele, Owen Biggert & Sadie Gehan

Arts, Culture & Heritage Committee - Connor Koch (Returning Rep) & Hannah Olson

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As Council Members, we are trying to provide an environment that allows for the students to learn and participate. We are also gaining wonderful perspective from the next generation of leaders. Student representative participation is a one-year term (June to June) and students have to apply and be accepted for the positions. All Dexter School District students are eligible; not just students who reside within the City limits.

My sincerest thank you goes out to each of you for volunteering and working hard for your community. We all truly appreciate your commitment to our community.

Recent Accomplishments

Thanks to the hard work of many people, the City has been able to accomplish a lot over the past year. Dexter's success as a community is the result of many people who care and invest their time in many ways. I would like to recognize and thank all the members of City Council, as well as our staff and the volunteer members of our many boards and commissions for their dedication and commitment to serving our community. Their energy is contagious, and their passion is appreciated. I think it is important to recognize the progress we have made and want to use this portion of my message to thank everyone for the time and work that they have invested over the past year. Together, we were able to accomplish the following:

- We purchased the property at 3515 Broad Street and began renovations to install an elevator and create an entrance lobby for our new City offices.
- We hired a new City Manager, new Assistant to the Manager, new Associate Planner, and new Administrative Assistant.
- We promoted an administrative assistant to fill our Utility Billing Clerk position.
- We promoted our Lead Utility Operator to Superintendent.
- We celebrated the retirement of two employees (Dan and Erin).
- We filled a vacancy on City Council.
- We completed road improvements in Dexter Crossing.
- We completed sidewalk and water system improvements on Second Street.
- We passed a Conflict-of-Interest ordinance.
- We received 730 responses to our recent public input survey.
- Our Planning Commission held monthly workshops/public hearings from December 2020 through April 2022 to discuss revisions to our zoning ordinance.
- Our Parks & Recreation Commission initiated discussions to upgrade the playground equipment at Mill Creek Park (north).
- We lowered the speed limit on Dexter Ann Arbor Road coming into the City from the east. We anticipate these signs will be installed soon – please keep an eye out for this change.
- We continued to pay down our long-term debt.
- We continued to plan for more connectivity to trails leading to our neighboring communities.
- We reduced our unfunded pension liability to \$334,821. As of December 2021, our pension fund is 94% funded, up from 67% in 2008.
- We continue to save money for our future long-term retiree health care obligations. While the City no longer offers this benefit to new employees, we need to continue to save money to pay for the health care costs of some of our current employees when they retire. As of June 30, 2022, we have saved \$2,179,776. Our most recent actuarial evaluation (2020) predicted that we need to save \$2,270,792.

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Facilities for the Future

New City Offices at 3515 Broad Street

With the recent purchase of our new City offices at 3515 Broad Street, City Council has found a home for our City office staff for years to come. 3515 Broad Street was originally an old mill that was initially renovated in the early 2000s. This historic building has a lot of character and sits across the railroad tracks from the old historic train station. It will be our new home and we will invest a little each year to update it and take care of it. In early 2022, we authorized and initiated a renovation plan to add an elevator and create a modern entry, counter, and office area for our staff to serve our residents. These improvements will provide increased accessibility for all users and provide useful space to administer our services to residents. We are also updating our City Council meeting space to provide more seating, better viewing, and better sound quality. We hope to have these improvements completed in the Fall of 2022 and look forward to inviting everyone to an open house tour.

Fire Station

It will come as no surprise to any City resident that we still need to find an appropriate upgrade to our current fire station. Our level of service and response to fire and rescue emergencies remains very high. Our firefighters and rescue vehicles respond daily from our current station, but the physical station itself does not represent the modern living, working and resting conditions that our fire fighters need and deserve.

In May 2022, City Council asked for updated cost estimates from our architect. These recent estimates have shown that it may cost almost as much to renovate the current station as it is to build a new one. This is a change from past comparisons that showed a lesser cost for renovation vs. building a new station. Supply chain and inflation have certainly affected the cost of this future project and City Council needs to determine how big the new station needs to be. We have had some very good discussions recently and I expect that we will be asking our residents to support a new 20-year millage to help fund the fire station project. I would estimate that millage request will be somewhere between 2 and 3 mills. We are doing our best to find the most cost-effective solution, and at the same time plan for improvements in this challenging economic environment. Here is a summary of recent activities related to the fire station and some anticipated next steps:

- In August 2019, City Council acquired land along Dexter-Ann Arbor Road at Meadowview with the intent of building a new fire station on that property. The City paid \$544,283 for the 2.38 acre parcel. A rendering of the potential new station has been publicly displayed on a sign near the corner of Meadowview and Dexter-Ann Arbor Road.
- The most recent construction cost estimates (June 2022) for our new station or for station renovations are now over \$10,000,000. With soft costs (i.e. engineering, architectural, legal, etc.), this amount is predicted to be approximately \$12,000,000. Inflation may drive this number higher yet over the next year. With the inflationary economy, we will be experiencing higher interest rates and increasing borrowing costs. All factors are being considered and evaluated.
- In addition to gathering the above information, City Council has been discussing whether to place a general obligation millage on the November 2022 ballot to get voter approval of funding to pay for either a new fire station or upgrades to the current station.
- While a decision on exactly what question will be placed in front of the voters has not been determined, we are working together and getting closer to placing that question in front of the residents. We will need voter support for the tax increase that is necessary to make these important facility improvements. Stay tuned and please be prepared to vote on this important facility improvement project.

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Economic Investment Continues

Slow, but steady economic investment continues in the City of Dexter. In addition to the construction of several new single-family homes throughout our town, we continue to see investment in several other new housing options for residents to enjoy. The Hilltop View Apartments on Dan Hoey had their grand opening in early June 2022, where we welcomed several new families.

Grandview Commons continues to build a variety of multi-family housing units at the corner of Grand and Baker. In total, 52 of the 76 condominium units have been constructed or are in some state of partial construction. Also on Grand Street, our Planning Commission and City Council recently approved the Millennium Place development, which will be a 22-unit apartment complex. Construction of a new office building has been initiated on Dexter-Ann Arbor Road. All of these investments will be great additions to the community.

The redevelopment of the Old DAPCO Site (3045 Broad Street near Mill Creek Park) remains a priority. In 2008, the Dexter Downtown Development Authority entered into an agreement to purchase the property commonly known by the address 3045 Broad Street. The purchase was finalized in 2012 after all the individual leases and uses in the property expired. The old DAPCO buildings were torn down shortly after the purchase was finalized. In 2018, the City entered into an agreement with DTE to acquire the last piece of property in this corridor. The small property used to contain one of the original DTE substations that served the Village/City. In the agreement with DTE, the City swapped property that we owned on Dan Hoey with DTE for the substation property. The agreement also required the City to pay for electric system upgrades on Broad Street as part of the demolition of the substation. In 2020, the DTE substation on Broad Street between Forest and Grand was demolished and the City completed the agreement with DTE to swap property. The City and DDA now own all the property between Broad Street and Mill Creek Park.

City/DDA goals for the property include finding a development that “fits” Dexter; one that compliments the park; and adds taxable value, office/retail space and residents to the downtown. Additional factors that are being considered include traffic circulation, parking, access to the trail system and pedestrian connectivity. In early 2022, the City/DDA were approached by the Common Sail Investment Group. They have presented concepts for their ideas for the property to our Planning Commission and DDA. Future meetings with them are planned to discuss their ideas in more detail.

Code Enforcement and Rental Housing Inspections

City Council has been discussing potential ordinance updates for code enforcement activities associated with grass cutting and snow removal as well as for housing inspections for rental properties. While no changes have been formally made to the ordinances, one potential goal of updating the grass cutting and snow removal sections of the ordinance would be to be able to get to a correctable action quicker. We are finding that our current process of code enforcement in these areas often takes longer than many residents feel it should before the City can step in and mitigate the problem if the property owner in violation has not taken action to correct the situation.

We are currently exploring ways to use the County building department to help with the idea of requiring housing inspections for rental properties. While there is still much discussion to have on these topics, I wanted to make sure the community was aware that they are occurring. All of these discussions are aimed at improving/maintaining the safety and appearance of our community.

State of the City

Summary and Closing

In closing, the State of the City of Dexter is strong, and our town continues to be safe. The City of Dexter continues to operate in a solid financial position, but there is so much more to our story. Dexter continues to be a wonderful destination full of opportunity, knowledge, recreation and fun. Our local economy is diverse, and I am thankful for all the local business owners that invest each day in our community. Dexter's small-town charm and friendly people are symbolic of the spirit of this community. We are lucky to live in a community that cares about each other. For many years, I have concluded my State of City with the phrase, "Dexter is a unique place where friends become part of your family".



On behalf of the entire City Council and our staff, we are working hard to balance your tax dollars, to provide high quality services, to pay down debt, to save for the future and to cultivate a community with a high quality of life.

If you have any questions or ideas after reading this State of the City, please contact any member of our staff or City Council. We are working together to provide the very best services we can. We appreciate and encourage all feedback.

I hope you have enjoyed reading this special State of the City message and our newsletter and look forward to seeing you around our town!

Thank you,

Shawn Keough, Mayor

skeough@dextermi.gov

313.363.1434 (cell)

Election Updates

2022 Upcoming Elections

August 2, 2022 – Primary Election

November 8, 2022 – General Election

Registering to Vote

Residents of the City of Dexter that are United States Citizens and are over the age of 18 may register to vote: in-person at the Dexter City Offices (8123 Main St., 2nd Floor, Dexter, MI 48130) or may mail a registration form to the address listed above. Residents may register to vote:

- By mail up to 15 days prior to an Election
- Between 14 days prior to Election Day, residents must register to vote in-person at the Clerk's Office with either a valid driver's license showing the correct Dexter address, or a valid driver's license and proof of residency at the location they are attempting to register.



Though residents may register to vote on Election Day at the City Clerk's Office, we would like to strongly encourage residents to not wait until Election Day, and instead register to vote or change their voter registration address as soon as possible. Residents may not register to vote at their Precinct on Election Day. Residents may register to vote or obtain a voter registration form online at: <https://mvc.sos.state.mi.us/RegisterVoter>. Mailed voter registration forms should be directed to the City Clerk at 8123 Main St., 2nd Floor, Dexter, MI 48130. The City Clerk's Office will be open the Saturday before each City Election from 9am - 5pm.

Voting Absentee

All registered City of Dexter voters are eligible to request an absentee ballot by completing, signing, and submitting an absentee ballot application form. Application forms should be sent to the City Clerk by mail (8123 Main St., 2nd Floor), scanned and e-mailed to Jbreyer@Dextermi.gov, or dropped off at the City Offices at 8123 Main Street. Applications may be requested by contacting the City Clerk or by visiting the Michigan Secretary of State's website at: https://www.michigan.gov/sos/0,4670,7-127-1633_8716_8728-21037--,00.html

For City of Dexter residents on the City's Permanent Absentee Voter List, the City mailed application forms the week of May 23rd.

Voting in the Primary

With partisan primary elections, voters may only select one party column on the ballot. "Split ticket" voting is not permitted. Voters may also vote for neither party and only vote the non-partisan (judge) and proposals section.

Permanent Absentee Voter List

The City of Dexter maintains a permanent absentee voter list. This list will automatically generate an absentee ballot application form that will be mailed to your house for each election. Voters may request to be placed on this list by contacting the City Clerk. Voters may also register for the permanent absentee voter list by visiting the Washtenaw County Clerk's website at - <https://www.washtenaw.org/FormCenter/Clerk-25/Permanent-Absent-Voter-List-Registration-179>.

Election Updates (Cont.)

Precinct Update

For voters in Precincts 1 & 3, your polling location has been permanently relocated to the new Dexter City Hall located at 3515 Broad Street beginning with the August 2nd, 2022 Primary Election.

Redistricting Updates

Following the redistricting process that coincides with the once-per-decade Census, the City of Dexter will be represented by the following districts:

- Federal House of Representatives District: 6
- State Senate District: 14
- State House of Representative District: 47
- County Commission District: 1

Saturday Office Hours

The Clerk's Office will be opened on the Saturday before each election from 9:00am to 5:00pm. Residents will be able to register to vote, pick up an absentee ballot or ask any election questions in-person during this time.

Mailed Absentee Ballot Deadline

The deadline to request an absentee ballot be mailed to you will be the Friday before an election by 5:00pm. After Friday, ballots can be picked up from the Clerk's Office on the Saturday or Monday before the election. Absentee ballots requested on Saturday or Monday before the election must be voted at the Clerk's Office and cannot be taken home.

Safe Street Crossing Reminders

According to State Law, drivers must yield to pedestrians within a crosswalk when the pedestrian is in or near the same half of the street as the driver. Drivers can choose to stop at a crosswalk to allow a pedestrian waiting to cross the street to cross, but it is not required regardless of the presence of a rapid flashing beacon. If you are a pedestrian, please check for traffic before using any crosswalk. Walk defensively and make eye contact with drivers to ensure that they see you. Never assume that you are seen or that a motorist will yield. Don't leave the curb or go into the path of a vehicle which is so close that the driver can't yield.



High Water Usage

An unexpectedly high utility bill can be very challenging for a household budget. Typically, when a resident receives a high water bill, Utility Department staff is called to the home to help determine the cause; the top five are listed below. We hope that sharing them will help to prevent the shock of a high utility bill.

- Running toilet(s)
- Water softener problem
- Water back-up system on a running sump pump
- Furnace humidifier issue
- Irrigation leak/running outdoor faucet

The simple way to double check that you are not using water unnecessarily is to turn off all of the water in your house and look at the water meter. If the numbers on the meter are increasing, even though everything is turned off, you likely have a leak. If you do hear water running, it is important to find its source, as even a small leak over time can greatly impact the bill.

If you receive a high bill that you will have trouble paying on time, please contact the City offices as soon as possible so that payment arrangements can be made.



Watering Restrictions

As a reminder, the City prohibits outdoor water usage between 6 am and 10 am, with odd/even water restrictions. Residents and businesses with odd numbered addresses (ending in 1, 3, 5, 7, 9) may do outdoor watering only on odd numbered dates. Likewise, those with even numbered addresses (2, 4, 6, 8, 0) may do outdoor watering only on even numbered dates. A simple adjustment of the start time of your irrigation system control can achieve this.

Lawn Maintenance

The Office of Community Development would like to remind property owners, including owners of rental properties or vacant lots, that local ordinances require routine lawn maintenance. Grass and/or weeds exceeding eight inches in height are considered a public nuisance. Once a complaint is lodged, the Code Enforcement Officer must conduct an inspection, and issue a violation notice if a public nuisance is observed.

Failure to mitigate the violation (i.e. mow the lawn/pull the weeds) can result in the issuance of a ticket and possible fine(s). For more information about property maintenance and code enforcement, please contact the Office of Community Development 734-580-2233/35.

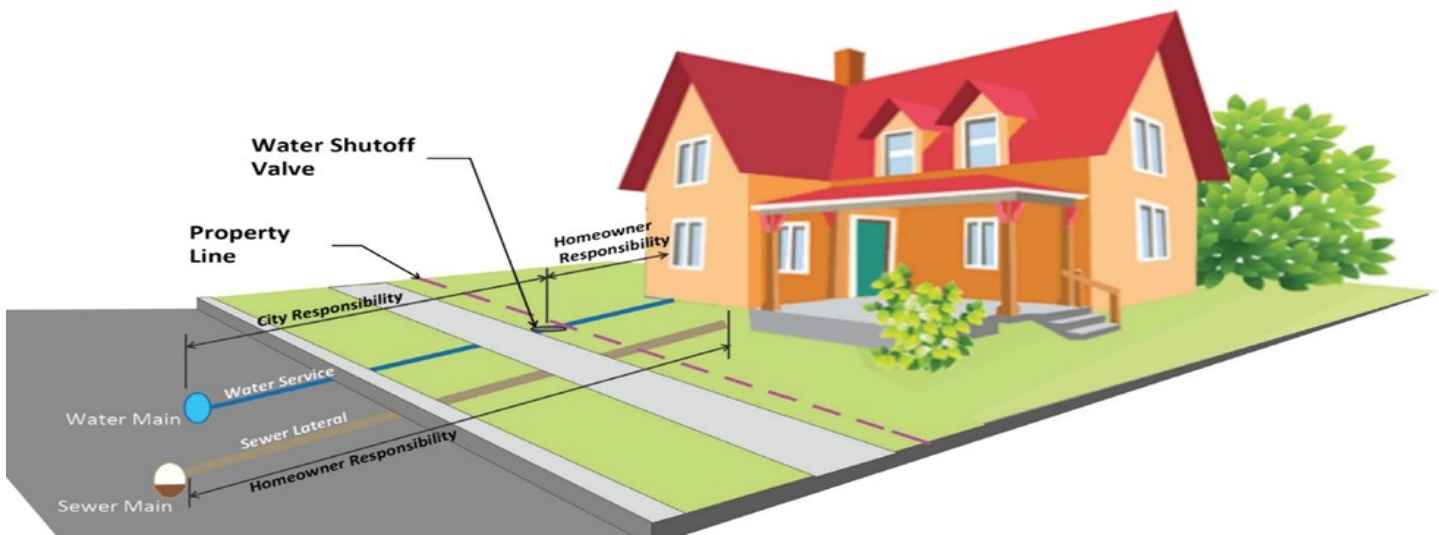
Also, please do not blow grass clippings into the street when mowing your lawn. These clippings travel into our storm sewer system which can cause the drains to clog. If you have a landscaping company that mows your lawn, please share this information with them.

Sewer Cleanliness Reminder

As a friendly reminder, it is important to remember certain household items are not flushable or should not be poured down the drain and need to be properly disposed. At home, some notable items that should never be flushed or dumped down the drain are as follows:

- “Flushable” Wipes — Many products that are labeled as “flushable” may not actually be flushable. Wipes are especially known to cause backups as they are not as “bio-degradable” as they are advertised. This can cost homeowners a fortune in back-ups, repairs and replacements as well as damage the City wastewater infrastructure.
- Fats/Oils/Grease — Non-water soluble materials such as fats, oils and greases can stick to the inside of piping and can cause large blockages, similar to flushable wipes.
- Other — Diapers, paper towels, prescription drugs, garbage waste (i.e. anti-freeze/gasoline).

In the City of Dexter, the maintenance and replacement of sewer lines from the home to the property line are the homeowners' responsibility, which is why keeping obstructive materials out of the pipes is crucial. Below is a graphic that shows who is responsible for the various pipes going in and out of your home.



Fire Hydrant Accessibility

As a friendly reminder to residents who have a fire hydrant located on their property, fire hydrants need to be readily accessible and unobstructed by landscaping. According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), hydrants need to have at least three (3) feet of clear space surrounding the circumference of the hydrant. In the City of Dexter, the General Code of Ordinances states in Sec. 58-39 that: “No person, firm or corporation shall in any manner obstruct or prevent free access to any fire hydrant by placing or storing , temporarily or otherwise, any object or material of any kind within 15 feet of the fire hydrant.” By removing any obstructions, both firefighters and Dexter utility employees will be able to access hydrants safely and easily.



Washtenaw County Clean-Up Day

Saturday August 27, 2022
9AM - 1PM
Eastern Michigan University

Parking lot across from Rynearson Stadium
799 N Hewitt Road, Ypsilanti, MI



Acceptable Materials

Appliances (refrigerator, dryer, a/c unit, dehumidifier, etc.)

Bulky Household Waste (furniture, mattresses, scrap wood, etc.)

No concrete, asphalt, bricks, or shingles

Electronics (TVs, computers, entertainment/communication devices, etc.)

Household Hazardous Waste (paint, pesticides, cleaning supplies, oil, etc.)

No materials in larger than 6 gallon containers

No oxygen or refrigerant tanks

Containers will not be returned

Scrap Metal

Tires *On or off rims, no semi or agricultural tires, limit of 10 tires*

Do NOT Bring

Construction/Demolition Waste (bricks, drywall, etc.)

Household Trash

Recyclable Materials (glass, cardboard, paper, plastic)

Foam Packaging and Containers

Please consider a **minimum donation of \$15.00** to help support this effort. Checks payable to Washtenaw County.

Bring 4 tires for free. We suggest a donation of \$5 for each additional tire for labor costs. Limit of 10 tires.

Bring 1 TV, computer, or appliance for free. We suggest a donation of \$10 for each additional item.

Long wait times are expected. Please only bring materials you can unload in 20 minutes or less. Space is limited. While we strive to help everyone in line by 1PM, we reserve the right to close the line when capacity is reached.

This event is for Washtenaw County residents only. We can't accept materials from businesses, government agencies, non-profits, or other organizations. Contact us for referrals to manage non-residential waste.

For more information and to find alternative locations for recycling or disposal, call **734-222-3950** or visit **www.washtenaw.org/cleanup**

We rely on volunteers for a successful event - visit bit.ly/volunteerwithWCSW to sign up and learn more

Event Sponsors

Eastern Michigan University | Trinity Health St. Joseph Mercy Ann Arbor | City of Ann Arbor
GFL Environmental | Tire disposal partly funded by the EGLE Scrap Tire CleanUp Grant

Summer Taxes, Assessments, and Uncapping

Summer Bills

Summer tax bills were mailed on July 1st and will be due September 15th. If you have any questions about your tax bill, please contact the City Treasurer at 734-580-2231 or MSherry@Dextermi.gov.

How Can I Pay My Taxes Safely and Contact-Free?

- Drop your non-cash payment in the drop box located in front of the PNC Bank at 8123 Main Street. To avoid penalty, payments must be deposited by 5:00 pm on the due date.
- Mail your taxes to 8123 Main St, 2 nd Floor, Dexter MI 48130. To avoid penalty, please be aware that postmarks are not accepted.
- Pay online at www.DexterMI.gov. On the home page, click on "Online Payments" and then you can search by name, address or parcel number. Click on "Pay Now" which will lead you to our payment processing system where you can make a one-time payment or set up an ACH for automatic withdrawal on the due date. There is a user fee of 3.25% for credit/debit cards, PayPal and Venmo, a fee of \$2.95 for electronic checks, and \$0.95 for autopay.
- If you would like a physical receipt, please include your entire tax bill with your payment when paying by mail or via the drop box, enclosing a self-addressed stamped envelope, and a receipt will be mailed to you. Staff is happy to email you a receipt if you provide an email address.

Tax Information

Tax information is available online at: https://www.dextermi.gov/government/departments_and_services/finance_and_taxation.php. The information is updated in real time as payments are made.

Help with Bills

Hardship Exemption: The Hardship Exemption is available to homeowners who are unable to afford their taxes due to unforeseen financial hardship. This exemption is available every year, and must be applied for to the March, July, or December Board of Review. Exemption guidelines, as established by City Council, are available on the Assessing Page at www.DexterMI.gov.

Summer/Winter Tax Deferment: This deferment is available every year as permitted by the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners. It allows seniors who meet certain requirements to defer payment of their summer and/or winter taxes to allow them time to file their state income tax returns. Application is made directly to the City Treasurer, and it can be found on the Property Tax Deferment page at www.Washtenaw.org.

Disabled Veterans Exemption: This exemption from payment of all property taxes for 100% service-connected disabled veterans and their surviving un-remarried spouses is available every year. Applicants must meet state requirements, and application must be made to the March, July, or December Board of Review. Information is available on the Property Tax Information for Veterans and Military Personnel page at www.Michigan.gov.

Other Assistance: There are agencies in Washtenaw County that can provide a wide variety of assistance to Dexter taxpayers. Please visit the Barrier Buster Agency List at www.Washtenaw.org.

Summer Taxes, Assessments, and Uncapping (Cont.)

Taxable Value

Your taxes are calculated using the following formula: millage rate/1000 * taxable value. The taxable value can only change each year by the rate of inflation or 5%, whichever is lower. For 2022, that rate was 3.3%. This “cap” remains in place each year unless one of three things happens:

- Ownership of the property changed in the previous year. When this occurs, the taxable value will “uncap” to equal the state equalized value (1/2 of the market value).
- The property changes physically by the addition or removal of part or all of a structure (including completion of partial construction).
- The state equalized value of the property becomes lower than the taxable value.

If one of these three things occur, your taxable value will reflect the change the following year. Depending on the taxable value before the change occurred, this can sometimes be significant. Please contact the City Treasurer if you have questions.

Field Work

The State tax Commission recommends an annual assessing review of 20% of the properties in a local unit. This year, these inspections took place in the **Huron Farms** and **Orchard River Hills** neighborhoods. Next year, these inspections will begin in the **original village neighborhoods**. Inspections will only result in a change to a property's taxes if something is observed that does not match the existing record card (like an added deck or patio). Assessing field workers conducting the inspections will be dressed with a neon yellow vest marked with “City of Dexter” as well as having City credentials on their person. Fieldwork is also performed for sales and some permits. Residents have the right to deny access to their property – please contact the assessor.

3rd Street Reconstruction

Starting July 2022, the City of Dexter will be completing a road reconstruction project on 3rd St. between Broad St. and Central St. This project also includes work being completed for stormwater management, on-street parking and changes to the 3rd & Broad intersection.

This project is anticipated to last into October. Road closures are anticipated to begin Tuesday, July 5th. The detour for the closure will be Central Street to 4th Street to Broad Street.



Dexter Farmers Market

The Dexter Farmers Market is in its 15th year on Alpine Street in the heart of downtown. The Market is open on Saturdays from 8am – 1pm, and Tuesday from 2 – 6pm.

The Market has a variety of fun activities such as live music, monthly basket drawings, face painting, and other great activities that take place between June and October. Items currently available at the Market include in-season produce and fruit, live native plants, freshly cut flower arrangements, hand-woven all natural grapevine wreaths, beautiful art, artisan breads, greeting cards, handmade soaps, coffee, pies, cookies, gluten free treats, granola, eggs, locally raised beef, chicken, duck, rabbit, artisan sausages, kielbasa and bratwurst, maple syrup, honey, and home and pet products! As the season progresses, expect new vendors and returning late-season vendors to be at the market.

The Market also features a free Bike Medic mechanic through June. In its stellar location, the Dexter Farmers Market provides a fun and exciting way to enjoy local food, support local business owners, and community interaction.

Want to keep up with Farmers Market news? Sign up for our weekly newsletter using the link below and check the box for the Farmers Market:

dexter.broadcastgenius.com/f/1012



Paint Dexter Plein Air Festival

Paint Dexter is celebrating its 10th Anniversary this August and we are excited to bring this year's Festival back to in-person with everyone's favorite Festival activities! For a complete and up-to-date Timeline of Events, please visit our website at: paintdexter.com/public-events/

- Monday, August 15th through Saturday, August 20th:
 - Artists paint in and around Dexter.
- Wednesday, August 17th:
 - Youth Painting Workshops in Monument Park (\$10 per participant)
- Friday, August 19th:
 - Quick Draw Competition from 9:30am – 12:30pm
 - Art Exhibit and Sale begins at 2:00pm in the Monument Park Tent Gallery
 - Wine and Craft Beer Reception from 4:30 - 8:30pm in the Monument Park Tent Gallery
 - Musical Entertainment in the Monument Park Gazebo from 6:30 - 8:30pm
- Saturday, August 20th:
 - Art Exhibit and Sale continues from 9:00am - 8:00pm in the Monument Park Tent Gallery
 - Children's Art Event in Monument Park from 11:00am - 2:00pm
 - Wine and Craft Beer Reception from 3:00 - 8:00pm in the Monument Park Tent Gallery
 - Musical Entertainment in the Tent Gallery from 6:00 – 8:00pm

Paint Dexter Plein Air Festival (Cont.)

Youth Painting Workshops

The Paint Dexter Plein Air Festival will host the Youth Painting Workshops on Wednesday, August 17th. The sessions are separated by age bracket and include: elementary school age, middle school age, and high school age and above. Cost to participate is \$10 per child/young adult, and all art supplies are provided. For more information, or to register for one or more of these sessions, please visit: paintdexter.com/youth-workshops/

Workshop for Adults

As part of this year's Paint Dexter Plein Air Festival, we are excited to offer a workshop with award-winning artist Ken DeWaard on Saturday and Sunday, August 13th and 14th. This workshop designed for painters who wish to take their painting to the next level. If you feel that you've reached a "plateau" in your work or are having problems with composition, values and simplification, then this workshop can help.

The two-day workshop will focus on developing your painting skills through organizing elements to create a successful composition, working to simplify shapes, and pushing to explore the use of temperatures and color while controlling values and edges. There will be lots of demonstrations and individual attention. To learn more and register to participate, please visit paintdexter.com/workshop-for-adults/ and click the registration button. Deposit is required to hold your space.

Have A Painting Made of Your Property

Do you have an interesting house, field, stream, or barn on your property? Are you interested in having a painting of your property created by an amazing artist? For this year's Festival, we are creating a list of properties in and around Dexter where our participating artists can go to paint *with the permission of the property owner*. If you are interested in having your property added to this list, please visit our online registration page at: paintdexter.com/volunteers/. Please only register your own property. We cannot guarantee that any of the artists will choose to create a painting of your property, but the list will be provided to all of the artists. Finished paintings will likely be on sale in the Monument Park Tent Gallery from Friday, August 19^h through Saturday, August 20th.

Sponsor this Year's Festival!

Although the Paint Dexter Plein Air Festival is an annual effort of the incredible individuals of the Arts, Culture and Heritage Committee members, City staff and volunteers, our sponsors provide the needed resources to make sure each festival is better than the last! If you or your business are interested in becoming a sponsor for this year's festival, check out paintdexter.com/sponsors/ or contact us at paintdexter@gmail.com. We thank you in advance for your support and can't wait for August!



Community Survey Feedback

The City of Dexter wants to thank all residents and Dexter community members who provided feedback for 2022 Community Survey. The results will go a long way in assisting staff and elected officials in continuing to make Dexter an incredible place to live, work and play! Below, City staff identified common questions that were noted in the survey results.

The Viaduct

Although the viaduct is right near downtown, the area where the viaduct falls is managed by the Washtenaw County Road Commission. Because of this, the City does not have any jurisdiction to make changes or improvements.

City Council, Boards and Commissions Meeting Information

Many residents noted in their survey answers that although they would like to participate or attend a City Council meeting, the information can be difficult to locate. If you are looking to see when City Council meetings are, check out the City Calendar on the City's homepage at dextermi.gov. Here, you can find all upcoming public meetings, including City Council.

You can find City Council's upcoming and past agendas and packets by hovering your mouse over the "Government" header on the City's website and clicking on *Agendas, Packets & Minutes* under the "City Council" subheading.

If you are interested in participating or learning more about one of our other boards and commissions such as the Arts, Culture & Heritage Committee, Parks and Recreation Commission, or the Planning Commission, you can hover your mouse over the "Government" header of the City's website and click on "Boards & Commissions", which is where you can select the board or commission you wish to get more information about.

The meeting days and times for the aforementioned boards and commissions are as follows:

- City Council - The 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month
- Arts, Culture & Heritage Committee - the 1st Wednesday of each month
- Parks and Recreation - the 3rd Tuesday of each month
- Planning Commission - the 1st Monday of each month
- Zoning Board of Appeals - as needed

If you are interested in attending virtually, you can do so by getting the Zoom meeting information from: (1) the agenda of the meeting you are interested in attending or (2) the meeting calendar located on the front page of the City's website. The calendar can be accessed by scrolling down the homepage and clicking the name of the meeting you are interested in attending.

Environmental Safety

The City of Dexter strives to be as environmentally-friendly as possible. One policy we have in place to protect our water resources is the odd-even day watering restrictions. With this in place, our natural aquifers are not strained and the water table is not disrupted.

The City also has a ban on coal tar sealants, which have a devastating effect of the environment.

City of Dexter
8123 Main St, 2nd Fl
Dexter MI 48130
(734) 426-8303

Mayor:
Shawn Keough

Council Members:
Sanam Arab
Paul Cousins
Donna Fisher
Jamie Griffin
Wa-Louisa Hubbard
Zach Michels

City Staff
Justin Breyer
City Manager/Clerk
Josh Tanghe
Asst. to the City Manager
Michelle Aniol
Community Development
Tim Stewart
Public Utilities Superintendent
Marie Sherry
Treasurer/Finance Director/
Assessor
Brenda Tuscano
Utility Billing Clerk
Grace Whitney
Associate Planner
Jenna Kuick
Administrative Assistant

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DEXTER MICHIGAN

The City Offices are located at 8123 Main St, 2nd Floor, above the PNC Bank. Hours are Monday through Friday, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

Elected Officials:

Mayor

Shawn Keough: SKeough@DexterMI.gov (313) 363-1434

Council Members

Paul Cousins: PCousins@DexterMI.gov (734) 548-3293

Donna Fisher: DFisher@DexterMI.gov (734) 649-5169

Zach Michels: ZMichels@DexterMI.gov (734) 726-0616

Jamie Griffin: JGriffin@DexterMI.gov (402) 302-9002

Sanam Arab: SArab@DexterMI.gov (248) 434-7755

Wa-Louisa Hubbard: WHubbard@DexterMI.gov (734) 883-9711

Staff:

City Manager/Clerk: JBreyer@DexterMI.gov (734) 580-2234

Asst. to the City Manager: JTanghe@DexterMI.gov (734) 580-2229

Treasurer/Finance/Assessor: MSherry@DexterMI.gov (734) 580-2231

Community Development: MAniol@DexterMI.gov (734) 580-2233

Utility Billing: BTuscano@DexterMI.gov (734) 580-2232

Public Works: KAugustine@DexterMI.gov (734) 426-8530

Public Utilities: TStewart@DexterMI.gov (734) 426-4572

Utilities After Hour Emergencies: (734) 368-5212

Dexter City Council Meetings

**3515 Broad St.
Dexter, MI 48130
or Zoom**

**2nd and 4th Mondays
@ 7:00pm**